

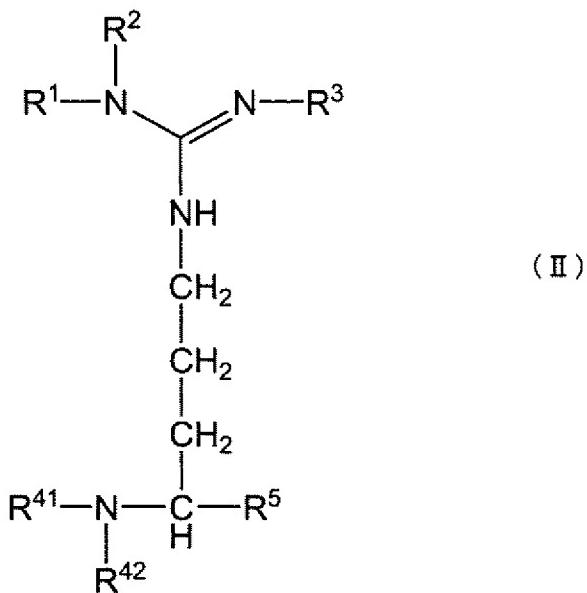
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

The listing of claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A compound represented by the general formula (II) or a salt thereof:

{Formula 1}



wherein R¹, R² and R³ each independently represent a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 3 carbon atoms, provided that at least one of R¹, R² and R³ does not represent a hydrogen atom; R⁴¹ represents a group represented by R⁴⁰¹CO- where R⁴⁰¹ represents a hydrogen atom, an unsaturated chain [[a]] hydrocarbon group which

optionally has a substituent, an alicyclic hydrocarbon group which optionally has a substituent, an aromatic hydrocarbon group which optionally has a substituent, or a heterocyclic group which optionally has a substituent, or a group represented by $R^{402}S(O)_m-$ where R^{402} represents a hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon group which optionally has a substituent or a heterocyclic group which optionally has a substituent, and m is an integer of 1 or 2; R^{42} represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 3 carbon atoms; and R^5 represents a carboxyl group which optionally has a substituent.

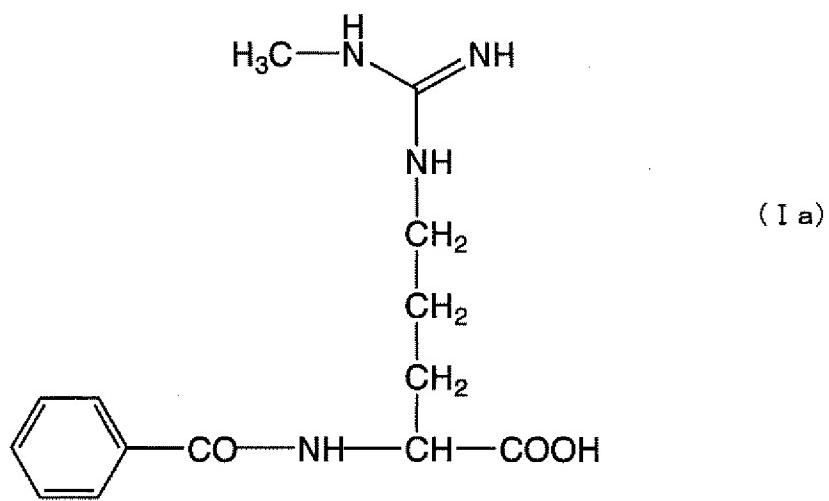
Claim 2 (cancelled).

Claim 3 (previously presented): The compound or salt thereof according to Claim 1, wherein R^{41} represents a benzoyl group which optionally has a substituent, a benzoylpeptidyl group which optionally has a substituent, a dansyl group which optionally has a substituent or a dansylpeptidyl group which optionally has a substituent; and R^{42} represents a hydrogen atom.

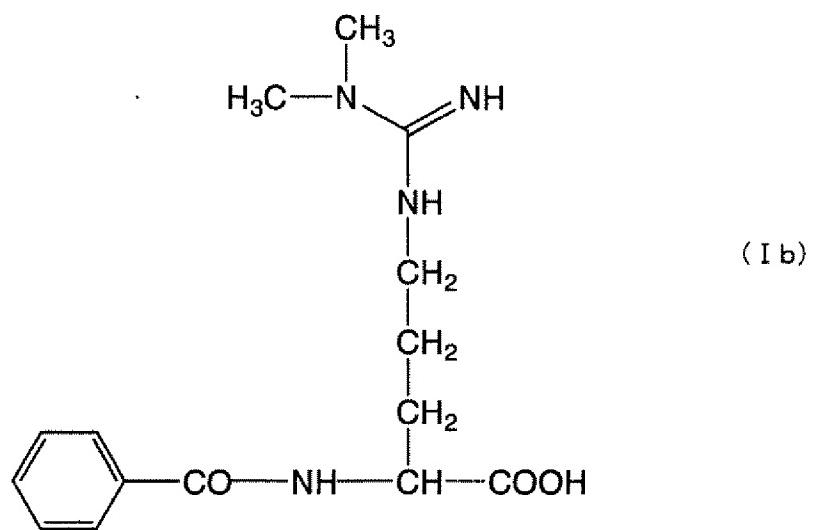
Claim 4 (previously presented): The compound or salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein R^1 , R^2 and R^3 each independently represent a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, provided that at least one of R^1 , R^2 and R^3 represents a methyl group.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The compound or salt thereof according to Claim 4, which is a compound represented by the formula (Ia), (Ib) or (Ic) or a salt thereof.

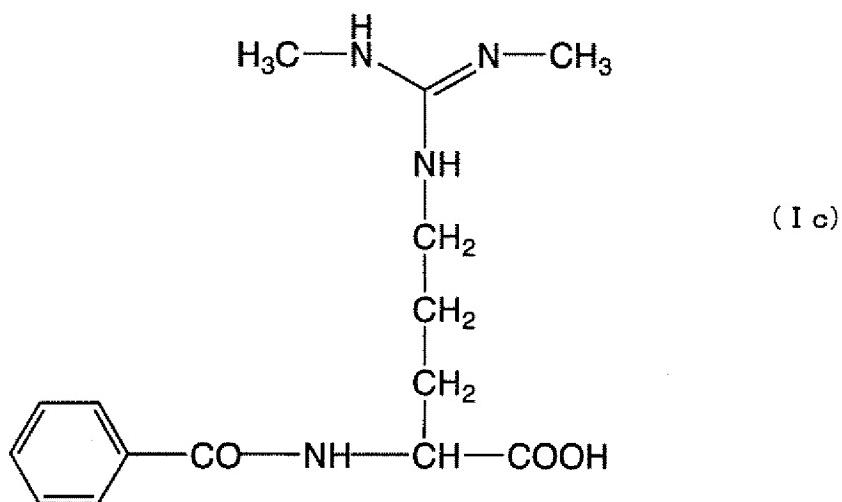
[Formula 2]



[Formula 3]



[Formula 4]

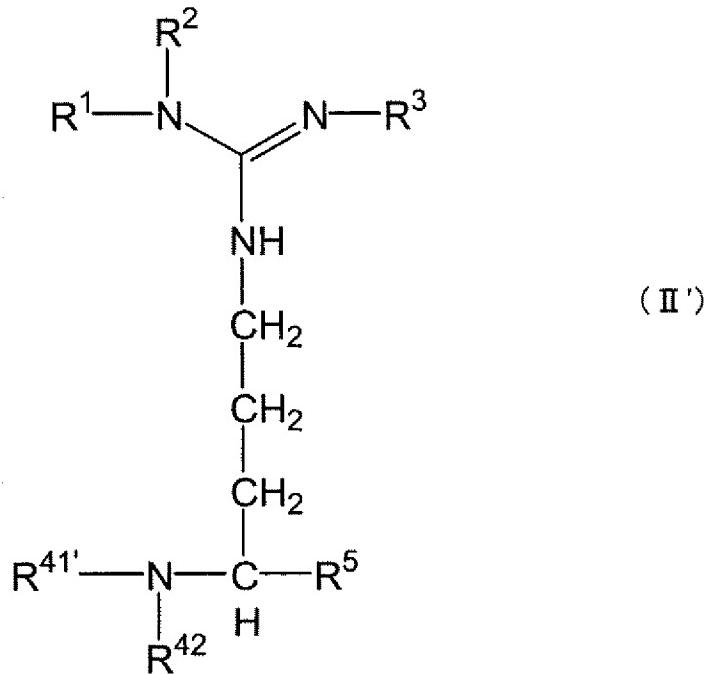


Claim 6 (cancelled).

Claim 7 (cancelled).

Claim 8 (currently amended): A peptidylarginine deiminase 4 inhibitor comprising, as the active ingredient, a compound represented by the general formula [II] or a salt thereof:

[Formula 5]



wherein R¹, R² and R³ each independently represent a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 3 carbon atoms, provided that at least one of R¹, R² and R³ does not represent a hydrogen atom; R^{41'} represents a group represented by R^{401'}CO- where R^{401'} represents a hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon group which optionally has a substituent or a heterocyclic group which optionally has a substituent, or a group represented by R⁴⁰²S(O)_m- where R⁴⁰² represents a hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon group which optionally has a substituent or a heterocyclic group which optionally has a substituent, and m is an integer of 1 or 2; R⁴² represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 3 carbon atoms; and R⁵ represents a carboxyl group which optionally has a substituent.

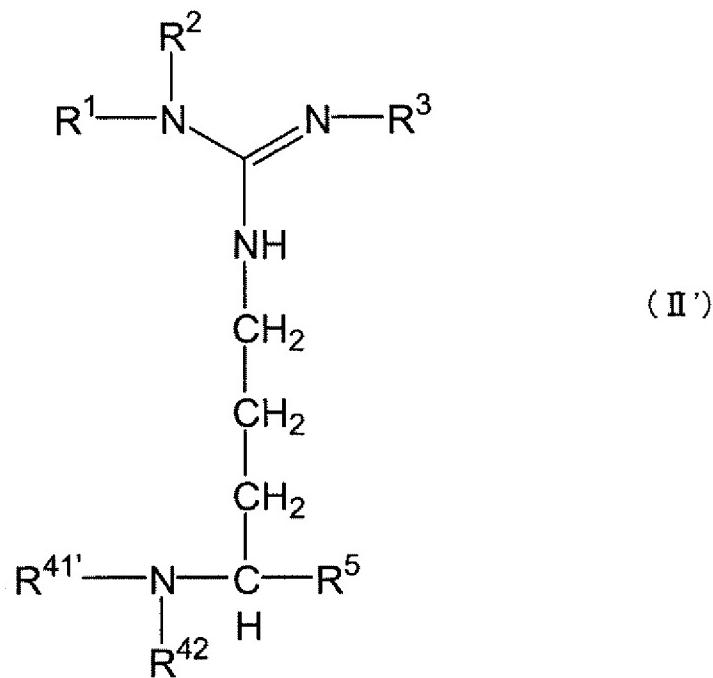
Claim 9 (cancelled).

Claim 10 (currently amended): The peptidylarginine deiminase 4 inhibitor according to Claim 8, which is used for the prevention and/or treatment of diseases associated with provided to inhibit enzymatic activities of peptidylarginine deiminases 4.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The peptidylarginine deiminase 4 inhibitor according to Claim 10, wherein the diseases associated with peptidylarginine deiminase are selected from the group consisting of rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis, and multiple sclerosis.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A method of manufacturing a peptidylarginine deiminase 4 inhibitor, comprising, as the active ingredient, a compound which is represented by the general formula [II'] or a salt thereof:

[Formula 5]



comprising: wherein substituents of the compound are comprised by providing independently for R¹, R² and R³ a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 3 carbon atoms, such that at least one of R¹, R² and R³ does not represent a hydrogen atom;

providing for R⁴¹ a group represented by R⁴⁰¹CO- where R⁴⁰¹ represents a hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon group which optionally has a substituent or a heterocyclic group which optionally has a substituent, or a group represented by R⁴⁰²S(O)_m- where R⁴⁰² represents a hydrogen atom, a hydrocarbon group which optionally has a substituent or a heterocyclic group which optionally has a substituent, and m is an integer of 1 or 2;

providing for R⁴² a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 3 carbon atoms; and

providing for R⁵ a carboxyl group which optionally has a substituent.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A method of treatment with the peptidylarginine deiminase 4 inhibitor according to Claim 8, comprising:

administering to a subject the peptidylarginine deiminase 4 inhibitor to inhibit enzymatic activities of peptidylarginine deiminase 4 prevent and/or treat diseases associated with peptidylarginine deiminases.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A method of treatment with the peptidylarginine deiminase 4 inhibitor according to Claim 13, wherein the one or more diseases associated with peptidylarginine deiminase and suffered by the subject are selected

from the group consisting one or more of rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis, and multiple sclerosis.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A method of treatment with the compound or a salt thereof according to Claim 1, comprising:

administering to a subject the compound or a salt thereof to prevent and/or treat ~~diseases associated with peptidylarginine deiminases~~ inhibit enzymatic activities of peptidylarginine deiminase 4.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A method of treatment according to Claim 15, wherein ~~the~~ one or more diseases associated with peptidylarginine deiminase suffered by the subject are selected from the group consisting one or more of rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis, and multiple sclerosis.